

1       What is claimed is:

1       1. A method comprising:

2            receiving user-input configuration changes to a  
3 configuration file;

4            tracking the configuration changes in multiple  
5 independent edit views;

6            updating an active edit view to include configuration  
7 changes of a single independent edit view; and

8            updating a configuration database that stores the  
9 configuration file, according to the configuration changes in  
10 the active edit view.

1       2. The method of claim 1 further comprising checking the  
2 syntax and semantics of the active edit view before updating  
3 the configuration database.

1       3. The method of claim 1 further comprising updating  
2 other independent edit views based on changes in the active  
3 edit view.

1       4. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a  
2 list of changes to the configuration file in the configuration  
3 database based on the updating of the configuration database.

1       5. The method of claim 4 further comprising identifying  
2 a conflict between an independent edit view and the list of  
3 changes.

1       6. The method of claim 5 wherein a conflict includes a  
2 modification to an element included in both the list of  
3 changes and the independent edit view.

1       7. The method of claim 5 further comprising resolving  
2 the conflict between the independent edit view and the list of  
3 changes.

1       8. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict  
2 includes updating the independent edit view based on the  
3 active edit view such that the independent edit view includes  
4 the changes to the configuration database.

1       9. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict  
2 includes discarding the changes and applying a different  
3 independent edit view to the active edit view.

1       10. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict  
2 includes resolving multiple conflicts on an individual basis.

1       11. A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an  
2 information carrier, for executing instructions on a  
3 processor, the computer program product being operable to  
4 cause a machine to:

5       receive user-input configuration changes to a  
6 configuration file;

7       track the configuration changes in multiple independent  
8 edit views;

9       update an active edit view to include configuration  
10 changes of a single independent edit view; and

11       update a configuration database that stores the  
12 configuration file, according to the configuration changes in  
13 the active edit view.

1       12. The computer program product of claim 11 being  
2 operable to check the syntax and semantics of the active edit  
3 view before updating the configuration database.

1       13. The computer program product of claim 11 being  
2 operable to update other independent edit views based on  
3 changes in the active edit view.

1       14. The computer program product of claim 11 being  
2 operable to generate a list of changes to the configuration  
3 file in the configuration database based on the updating of  
4 the configuration database.

1       15. The computer program product of claim 11 being  
2 operable to identify a conflict between an independent edit  
3 view and the list of changes.

1       16. The computer program product of claim 15 being  
2 operable to resolve the conflict between the independent edit  
3 view and the list of changes.

1       17. A system configured to:  
2           receive user-input configuration changes to a  
3 configuration file;  
4           track the configuration changes in multiple independent  
5 edit views;  
6           update an active edit view to include configuration  
7 changes of a single independent edit view; and  
8           update a configuration database that stores the  
9 configuration file, according to configuration changes in the  
10 active edit view.

1       18. The system of claim 17 further configured to check  
2 the syntax and semantics of the active edit view before  
3 updating the configuration database.

1       19. The system of claim 17 further configured to update  
2 other independent edit views based on changes in the active  
3 edit view.

1       20. The system of claim 17 further configured to  
2 generate a list of changes to the configuration file in the  
3 configuration database based on the updating of the  
4 configuration database.

1       21. The system of claim 17 further configured to  
2 identify conflicts between an independent edit view and the  
3 list of changes.

1       22. The system of claim 21 further configured to resolve  
2 the conflict between the independent edit view and the list of  
3 changes.